West Bengal; has been neglected very badly. So far as the Mobile Opthalmic Units are concerned, West Bengal has got only three Units as compared to 60 in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal. So far as leprosy is concerned, in certain districts of West Bengal, particularly in Purulia and Bankura, there are a large number of leprosy patients, but there are only two units. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Health Ministry has any proposal to increase the number of units as per the need of the State. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether these mobile units are undertaking conventional cataract surgery or they are also undertaking the specialised intra-ocular lense transplanatation surgery because that is very common these days. I would like to know whether the rural people are getting benefit of the IOL treatment or not. I would also like to know as to how many trachoma patients ;have been treated in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: माननीया उपसभापति जी, मैंने पहले ही कहा कि ये हमारी स्कीम्ज़ नहीं हैं। ये जितनी वैन्ज हैं ये राज्य सरकारें चला रही हैं। हम तो केवल नेशनल ब्लाइंडनैस कंट्रोल के तहत चला रहे हैं । उसमें इन्क्रीज़ करने का मतलब ही नहीं है, क्योंकि हम उसको भी फेज आउट कर रहे हैं। मैंने कहा कि टोटल आई सर्जरी जो होती है उसकी 5 से 6 परसेंट कैटेरेक्ट सर्जरी इन मोबाइल वैन्ज़ के थ्रू हो रही है। वरना ये मोबाइल वैन्ज़ भी केवल स्क्रीन करके पेशेंट को ट्रांसपोर्ट करने का काम कर रहीं हैं। ये जो इनको नज़र आ रही हैं, दो हैं या 16 हैं या कितनी हैं, ये राज्य सरकारें अपनी-अपनी चला रही हैं।

*166. [*The questioner (*Shri Rajkumar Dhoot*) was absent. For answer vide page 46-47*].

Special Economic Zones

*167. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be plesed to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Speical Economic Zones (SEZs) for the rapid growth of the Electronics and Hardware sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the details of amount required for such SEZs;

(c) whether the State Government of Karnataka has sought assistance from the Goverment for the establishment of SEZs in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) There is no proposal to set up any new Special Economic Zone (SEZ) by the Central Government. However, the scheme envisages setting up fo SEZs in the public, private, joint sectors or by the State Governments.

(c) and (d) On the basis of proposal received from Government of Karnataka, in principle approval has been granted for setting up of Special Economic Zone at Hassan (Karnataka) promoted by Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board. However, no proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka for any assistance in establishment of SEZ in the State.

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Madam, I specifically asked from the hon. Minister, "Whether the Government proposed to set up Special Economic Zones for The promotion of the electronics and hardware sectors in the country?" He has answered in general in regard to all the items to be exported. Inthe electronics sector in India software is being promoted. So far as hardware is concerned, we are lagging behind. So far as hardware is concerned, Taiwan and China have gone far ahead. Therefore, I would request the Government to promote hardware in the electronics. Is there any specific proposal before the Government in this regard?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Madam, originally, there were eight EPZs, which were located in various parts of the country which have now been converted into Special Economic Zones. In addition to this, proposals with regard to 17 SEZs have been received which have been, in principle, granted approval and after they were granted, in principle, approval, three have further been granted a formal approval. When we receive a particular proposal either from the State Government or from a joint venture party, it is only then the Central Government is in a position to grant an approval.

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: On the basis of a proposal, the Central Government has granted approval to set up a Special Economic Zone at Hassan in Karnataka. But before the approval was granted, the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board developed a vast area by acquiring

a lot of land from the people. Even after developing the area, no industry or anything has been set up there. Lot of money has been invested by the State Government and people also have lost their land for that purpose. under these circumstances, it is only lying on paper; neither any industrial activities nor export activities have come up so far. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government will insist upon the State Governments to take up the matter and start establishing industries and give a fillip to the promotion of these industries. Otherwise, there is no meaning in establishing these Special Economic Zones and keeping the land idle and spending a lot of public money.

SHRI ARJUN JAITLEY: Madam, as I mentioned, the first stage is that the Central Government grants an in-principle approval. That in-principle approval has already been granted to the Special Economic Zone which is to be set up by the Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board.

Now, the first prerequisite, when you set up this as a defined geographical territory, is that the land requires to be acquired. Now, the area in Karnataka, in Hassan, which is required to be acquired for this purpose, is 2500 acres, And, as against this, the information available with the Central Government is that the Karnataka Government and the body which is setting it up, have so far acquired only 1663 acres. So, they have to acquire the entire land and then they have to come up for the formal approval to the Central Government. Only then, it will be granted.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Madam, this question pertains to electronic and hardware sector in particular. Hon. Minister has given us some information. I would like to ask specifically, (a) whether the existing Export Processing Zones, some of which were specifically Electronic Export Processing Zones, like SEEPZ, have they been formally converted into Special Economic Zones becasue there are different laws governing the two set-ups; and (b) whether out of the 17 proposals for setting up new SEZs, that you have received, are there any proposals which specifically deal with electronics and hardware sector?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Madam, as far as the existing eight EPZs are concerned, all eight EPZs have been converted into the SEZs. That is reply to the part one. With regard to the second, there is no specific proposal with regard to the electronic industry for a special SEZ as such.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Madam, two Special Economic Zones have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Commerce. One is in Tamil Nadu and another in Gujarat. I want to know from the hon. Minister what progress has been made so far with regard to these two SEZs, because, I was told that in Gujarat, even the land has not been sanctioned.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Madam, as far as one in Gujarat is concerned, that is, Positra SEZ, the Central Government had granted both, an in-principle approval on 3/7/2000 and the formal approval has also been granted by the Central Government on 15th February, last year. Acquisition of land is what is to be done by the joint venture company, which was proposing to set up that particular zone. The Central Gvoernment is not in any way concerned, as far as the land is concerned. As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, the in-principle approval has been granted by the Central Government. The request for a formal approval has not come.

*168. [*The questioner (Prof. Saif-Ud-Din Soz) was absent. For answer vide* page *48*].

*169. [*The questioner (Shri Suresh Pachouri) was absent. For answer vide* pages 48-49].

*170. [*The questioner (Shri Surendra Lath) was absent. For answer vide* pages 49-51].

*171. [*The questioner (Dr. A.K. Patel) was absent. For answer vide* page *51-55*].

Review of Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002

*172. SHRI RANGANATH MISRA:†
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ruled out review of the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002, designed to establish a permanent Lok Adalat as an additional forum to litigants for resolution of their disputes with certain public utility services;

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ranganath Misra.